

In re Patent Application of:

FLICK

Serial No. 09/650,425

Confirmation No. 8740

Filed: **AUGUST 29, 2000**

REMARKS

Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for his thorough examination of the present application. Applicant also wishes to thank the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences for its helpful analysis regarding potential ambiguities in the claim language, and its interpretation of the prior art references.

Independent Claims 1, 11, 19, and 25 have been amended to more clearly define the invention over the prior art. Dependent Claims 7, 17, 23, and 29 have been amended, and claims 8, 18, 24, and 30 have been cancelled for consistency with the amendments to the independent claims. The claim amendments and patentability of the claims are discussed in greater detail below.

I. The Amended Claims

Amended Claim 1, for example, is directed to a vehicle security system comprising at least one security sensor and a security controller connected thereto. Amended Claim 1 recites that the siren comprises a common housing to be positioned within an engine compartment of a vehicle, a siren electrical signal generator circuit carried by the common housing for generating an electrical siren security alarm signal responsive to the security controller, and a shock detector circuit carried by the common housing for processing an electrical shock sense signal for the security controller. Amended Claim 1 also recites a common

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electrical/mechanical (E/M) transducer carried by the common housing for both sounding a siren security alarm responsive to the electrical siren security alarm signal, and for generating the electrical shock sense signal responsive to mechanical shock.

In other words, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the siren comprises a common housing to be positioned within the engine compartment of the vehicle, and a common E/M transducer for both sounding a siren security alarm responsive to the electrical siren security alarm signal, and for generating the electrical shock sense signal responsive to mechanical shock. Independent Claims 11, 19, and 25 have been similarly amended.

II. The Amended Claims Are Patentable

The Examiner rejected Claims 1-30 as being unpatentable over Mueller. Mueller discloses various siren embodiments that are all substantially similar (see column 11, lines 64-67 and column 10, lines 29-36). For example, Mueller discloses, with reference to FIGS. 17-19, that the "horn/siren 450 includes a first outer flanged hollow portion 452 coupled to an electrical power source 453, and an inner and generally tubular shaped movement and sound producing portion 454 which is adapted to be movably contained within hollow outer portion 452 by use of member 451" (see column 12, lines 1-6). This is the only description of an E/M transducer for sounding a siren

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security alarm responsive to the electrical siren security alarm signal.

Mueller discloses two classes of embodiments of a shock sensor or E/M transducer for generating the electrical shock sense signal responsive to mechanical shock. One class of shock sensor embodiments is based upon a coil assembly and relatively movable magnet (FIG. 9). The other class of embodiments is based upon movement of an absorbing or reflective member in an optical path between an optical source and detection sensor (FIG. 10).

In other words, Mueller discloses a first E/M transducer for sounding a siren security alarm responsive to the electrical siren security alarm signal, and a physically separate and distinct second E/M transducer for generating the electrical shock sense signal responsive to mechanical shock. Mueller fails to disclose the claimed common E/M transducer for both sounding a siren security alarm responsive to the electrical siren security alarm signal, and for generating the electrical shock sense signal responsive to mechanical shock. Applicant also notes that the disclosed E/M shock sensor transducer embodiments of Mueller are simply unsuitable for sounding a siren security alarm signal. Accordingly, it is submitted that independent Claims 1, 11, 19, and 25 are patentable over Mueller.

Further, Claim 1 has also been amended to recite that the siren includes a common housing to be positioned within an engine compartment of a vehicle. This clearly distinguishes

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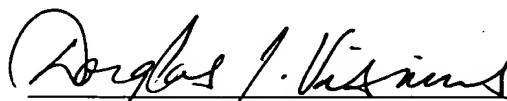
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over the Examiner's thoughtful concern that "housing" could encompass the entire body of the vehicle. Accordingly, it is submitted that the amended independent Claims 1, 11, 19, and 25 are also patentable over Mueller for this reason. The dependent claims, which recite yet further distinguishing features of the invention, are also patentable, and require no further discussion herein.

Conclusion

In view of the claim amendments submitted herein and the arguments presented above, it is submitted that all of the claims are patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested in due course. Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,



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